

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4574
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
IRON ORE RESERVE
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is huge iron ore reserve in Salem region including Servarayan Hill area in Tamil Nadu.
- (b) if so, the time by which these reserve are to be exploited;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to open iron ore mining to private sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): Yes, Sir. As per the National Mineral Inventory prepared by IBM as on 1.4.2000, a conditional resources of 231.804 million tonnes of magnetite iron ore is distributed in a group of 12 deposits in Salem district. However, no iron ore deposits have been located in Servarayan Hills area.

(b): State Government of Tamil Nadu has informed that Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), a state owned corporation of Tamil Nadu Government has applied for grant of two mining leases for exploitation of iron ore over an extent of 1000 hectares in Perumalatty village of Salem District and over an extent of 607.29 hectares in Kavuthimalai and Vedyappamalai areas of Thiruvannamalai District.

(c & d): Mining of iron ore is permissible for both the public and the private sector.